5: Crowder J-5 (1955-1961) 1962
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433 668 reaching economic development plan. Mamadou Dia has described the plan as the 'décollage' or taking-off point of the country's development. The plan is the expression of the African socialism of which Senghor and Dia have so long dreamed. It has two important points. Relatively little emphasis is placed on industrialisation, and fundamental to the development of the country are [494] 'rural animation' and co-operatives through which the people will be made aware of the great future that could be theirs if only they co-operate in the realisation of this plan. Already 80 per cent of peasant farmers are organised in co-operatives.

Senegal's economy is based today on the export of its ground-nut crop of just under 800,000 tons a year. This has been produced to the detriment of subsistence crops, with the absurd result that Senegal, a basically agricultural country, is importing foodstuffs to the tune of £15 million a year. Furthermore there has been a great disparity in the economic and social development of the towns in com- [369] parison with the bush. Thus whilst Dakar is one of the most modern and prosperous towns in West Africa, the Vallée du Fleuve is abysmally poor and Casamance hitherto neglected. Thus the emphasis is on rural development; the [871] extension of educational facilities to a population only 30 per cent of whose children go to school; then the increase in medical facilities; the supply of water to villages without it; and in particular the opening-up of hitherto neglected regions by improved communications, which includes the [491] tarring of over 1,000 miles of roads and improvement of 600 miles of dirt road. But above all the emphasis is on the increase of home food crops and the widening of the variety of foodstuffs available to the peasants. It is estimated that if the plan works out, then the global index of production, taken as 100 in 1959, will be up to 137 in 1964. New industries such as the phosphate works at Taiba, an oil refinery, chemical factories and textile printing works will provide 10,000 new jobs, and thus absorb some of the unemployed

5: Crowder J-5 (1955-1961) 1962
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school leavers who characterise every West African town from Dakar to Douala, and whose numbers will increase in future under the new plan, since by 1964-65 it is hoped over 50 per cent of children of school age will be at primary school.

The whole plan is to cost £135 million, much of the money to be drawn from abroad, and much from private sources. As can be seen from the table below the emphasis is on social improvement rather than the creation of great gesture industries.

	Percentages	
	Of public investments	*Of total investments*
Infrastructure	33·9	18·75
Agriculture	18·0	13·4
Commerce and Industry ..	7·0	44·4
Education	12·2	6·7
Health	5·3	2·9
Housing	7·2	10·9
Administrative	5·5	3·0

It is a socialist plan at heart. The state will be taking over large sectors of the economy. Already the state trading organisation for the marketing of ground-nuts with the aid of local co-operatives has taken over the marketing of over a quarter of the crop from private commerce. But it is doing this in direct competition with them, to ensure that the organisation is commercially viable. Senghor believes 'Where private capitalism comes into peaceful competition with socialism, the latter must, I feel sure, emerge triumphant . . .'

On the other hand Senegal is not trying to discourage private enterprise, for, as can be seen from the above table, it accounts for much of the capital for the plan. Indeed, particularly favourable concessions are made to it. What

/91 cont./

369 177 563 [584] [593] [182] families in which the father imposes on the child the spouse of his choice. The spread of the teaching of the Moslem and Christian religions count for much in this loosening of the too confining ties of family tradition. This breaking up of ancient, too narrow social structures is not a strictly /92/ urban phenomenon; it also occurs in the countryside, but with less force and with a certain delay.

369 565 178 The presence of the industrial bloc of the Dakar-Niger, on the other hand, has had as an effect the formation of a working class, which is a specifically urban phenomenon. Although the ancient system of castes does exist in human contacts, that of social class is little by little being substituted for it. In sum, there actually exists a superposition of the two systems, but the pre-eminence of the second is already being affirmed. Through daily contacts and the rapid [177] [467] [474] diffusion of social ideas coming from the West, the mass of workers is organized, it is grouped by syndicates, it has set up consumer co-operatives. Because of the great number of the members of this worker group, the workshops of the Dakar-Niger and, through repercussion, the city of Thiès itself have become the most active and the busiest centers of French West Africa. The strike that in 1948 paralyzed [468] railroad traffic on the two lines (Dakar-Bamako and Dakar--Saint-Louis) for several months is certainly proof of the influence of a powerful and organized grouping, and a typical urban phenomenon.

369 563 578 Thus there exists in Thiès a somewhat special social climate that sometimes makes the relations between Whites and Blacks strained. Chiefly during these periods of social crises. But these tensions are always temporary and automatically disappear as soon as the conflict is settled.

369 161 A much more important problem that seems general in all of the cities of Black Africa is that of the too rapid, if not excessive, swelling of the urban population. We have [162] seen that the population of Thiès has almost doubled from 1945 (24,000 inhabitants) to 1953 (40,000 inhabitants). Dakar, Conakry, and Abidjan have grown in the same proportions.

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438 442 [443] [452] their establishments the manufactured products that the firm delivers to them. They are most often linked with the producers by the system of loans that they authorize in cash and especially in kind during the difficult period of low supplies before the harvest.

[441] The African "sub-traders" most often play the role of intermediary between the producers and the traders; they very often are transporters and guide the seller to the weighing-machine of a friend.

Since the last war this system has been greatly perturbed by the appearance of new purchasers who more and more compete with the traditional commerce. The local oil-makers [758] scarcely ever appeal to the large firms. They do business with the traders of the escales, or, more often, they have their 438 own buyers. Since 1952 some pilot co-operatives have made 442 the collection in many escales at little expense; they utilize 474 the personnel and equipment of the S.M.D.R. Moreover, the 656 law of 13 January 1960, creating an "Office de commercialisation agricole" (O.C.A.), has assigned to this body the responsibility of selling the products collected by the co-operatives (Art. 6) and has granted it license to create purchase points for the direct collection of local agricultural products in the sectors where there are as yet no co-operatives (Art. 7). The decree of 20 May 1960, which more precisely relates to the marketing of groundnuts, grants purchasing permits only to organismes stockeurs (O.S.) /storage bodies/, private or co-operative, properly approved by the decision of a Comité régional d'agrément /Regional Committee of Approval/, and to the purchasing posts of the O.C.A. One might ask if these decisions do not constitute a step toward the creation of an "Office de l'arachide" /Office for Groundnuts/, which would have exclusivity of the trade and could normalize a "circuit of groundnuts," now very complex. /Pl. I and II appear here on unnumbered pages./

↑ [The Lebano-Syrian traders --Analyst]

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438 442 2. The "circuit" of groundnuts. The purchase of the groundnuts in the escale and storing them in the secco of the trader constitute only one step in the complicated circuit that the groundnuts take from the place of production to the port of exportation or to the oil-factories.

492 438 1) The means of transport. From the place of production to the escale, the groundnuts essentially utilize the traditional modes of transport, donkeys throughout the country and camels in the north. The decree of 4 September 1935 has forbidden the [656] use of trucks. Its aims were to avoid bulky hauls, purchases at [231] a low price at the place of production, and, above all, to encourage local animal-husbandry. This system, however, carries with it grave defects. Most often transport on the back of a donkey is more expensive for the producer than transport by truck because the camel-drivers and donkey-drivers impose their own price on the peasants who do not have animals. Moreover, the transporter guides the seller to a trader whom the seller did not choose. Today, however, more and more derogations are permitted, because in the south, where the groundnut is progressing, the tsetse interdicts animal husbandry, and in the other regions the overworked animals are incapable of doing the transporting at the end of trade. Finally, certain [874] co-operatives which pretend "to collect" and not to buy do send trucks to the places of production.

494 438 From the secco of the trader to the port nearby or to the railroad station, transport is handled by trucks. It is essentially the commercial firms, the traders, or the local oil-makers who use them. There are few professional transporters because the traffic is essentially seasonal. The generally bad [491] condition of the unpaved roads, except for the "Transgambienne" from Dakar to Ziguinchor, causes a rapid wearing-out of equipment, whose amortization is a heavy burden on the budget of the merchants.

497 438 The Dakar--Saint-Louis railroad and especially the Dakar-Niger transport more than 200,000 metric tons of groundnuts

[Text continues on P. 21--Analyst]

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244 433 are much less suitable for this crop because of their composition which gives a certain acidity to the nuts, thus rendering them less suitable for industrial use in /118/ the production of fine oils. There have been attempts to correct this defect and to improve the quality of Bas-Saloum by means of seed selection and by the continued addition of seed from Sine; this has not yet been successful.

Fallow lands, however, are not lacking in the other regions of the circle.

There are 230,000 hectares planted in groundnuts. This figure represents 0.85 hectares per inhabitant. This is about 1/11 of the total area of the circle.

In 1914 this crop extended over 70,000 hectares. It has thus tripled.

The production, which was 75,000 tons in 1918, is about 140,000 tons today. It has doubled in 10 years. It amounts to almost a third of the harvest of Senegal.

One can determine the production of groundnuts in the circle since 1921 by the following figures (in tons):

Years	1921	1922	1923	1924
Tons	80,000	90,000	110,000	125,000
Years	1925	1926	1927	
Tons	135,000	145,000	140,000	

167 242 These results are due in part to the increase in the population by the influx of foreign workers into the circle, who came to settle there or who hire themselves out, and in part to the selection of seeds and their distribution in ever increasing quantities.

654 441 474 The credit for this work is to be given to the administration, the Société de Prevoyance /Welfare Society/, and the Chambre de Commerce of Kaolack, whose combined efforts have made it possible to achieve such a fine result.

/119 cont./
433 production of about 14,000 tons, which are entirely con-
[243] sumed on the spot.

[244] Manioc. Manioc is the crop grown in some plantings
[474] around the villages. The native Société de Prevoyance distributed many cuttings in most of the cantons in 1925.

About 5,000 hectares are planted to manioc, with a production of 25,000 tons of fresh manioc.

[243] /120/ Maize. Maize is not planted everywhere. It is cultivated in Bas-Saloum and in Sine, a little in Saloum. There are 2,000 hectares of maize and 2,000 tons of production.

[244] Beans (niébés). The bean called "niébé" is planted on about 15,000 hectares, yielding a harvest of 7,000 tons.

Production, however, remains stationary, because the plant is attacked by various insects (weevils).

[245] Bananas. Two banana plantations, established by the
[654] administration, exist at Sangako and Bani in Bas-Saloum. They could be multiplied in this region.

[249] Sugar cane. This product is not cultivated very much -- the soil is not suitable -- with rare exceptions.

[248] Cotton. Native cotton is cultivated only in small stretches. This crop takes up 700 hectares of land.

[249] Indigo. The region that is the principal producer of indigo is Bas-Saloum. This crop has tended to increase for the past several years.

[314] Kapok. The kapok tree lives in the wild state. There are some in the cantons along the railroad (N'Gahaye-Gossas), but especially to the south, starting at Kaffrine and above all in Koungheul. The native does not harvest it or harvests it poorly. The circle could yield 100 tons of kapok, but it provides only 20 tons at the most, used locally or sold abroad.

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874 461 young people are inclined to seek our courses which prepare them for officialdom. The elite wishes to be instructed doctorally. It disdains manual trades. It is this state of mind that must be changed. Craftmanship is dying out. The governor of Senegal, under the over-all supervision of the governor-general, has understood this. The vocational courses in the capital of the colony, Saint-Louis, have been revised and improved. Agricultural schools have been established. More must be done. It is necessary to add a vocational workshop to each regional school and even to some of the primary schools. The child should become familiar -- before leaving school -- with the handling of the hammer, the chisel, and the plane; he should know how to use a shovel, spade, and rake. All of these skills should be lifted up out of disrepute, which has no reason for existing. Manual work must be put on an equal footing with intellectual work. We need good workers even more than good writers.

/127/ It is the duty of the administration to prepare the younger generation for the task that awaits them.

654 474 244 Agricultural mutuality. The Société de Prevoyance. Within this order of ideas, and in order to develop a spirit of mutuality and a sense of foresight among the natives, the administration has created, like Algeria, native welfare and mutual loan societies. A society of this type has been operating in Sine-Saloum for many years. Its founding goes back to 1907. Its beginnings were modest. At first it brought together 718 cultivators. By 1910, the number of members of the society reached the figure of 1,567. This was still very few. The idea had borne fruit, however. The administration soon brought in the majority and then the totality of the cultivators.

[652] In July 1907, at its founding, the governor of Senegal put at the disposal of the administrator of the circle the sum of 20,000 francs in order to promote this effort for mutuality.

Thanks to this advance, 99,700 kilograms of groundnut seed was loaned to the 718 first adherents, who returned them in kind after the harvest with an interest of 30%.

/127 cont./

654 From 1907 to 1910, storehouses were built to shelter the seeds. In 1910, these storehouses were multiplied in order
● 474 to be more within the reach of the borrowers. On December 6,
244 1910, a decree of the governor of Senegal approved the
[251] definitive statutes of this society. The latter, on the basis of the experience of several years, have just been supplemented and revised.

The society of Sine-Saloum has 19 sections distributed throughout the circle.

As early as 1911 it had 160,000 members, and its cash on hand amounted to 139,499 francs. Its storehouse stock was 317 tons of selected seed.

Today, the society has property valued at more than 1 million. It has an annual income and expenditure budget of 5 million, including the value of the seeds which it keeps /128/ in its storehouses for the loans that it grants to its members for reimbursement in kind.

Since it demands an interest of 20%, it very rapidly increases its stock of seed. Thus, in 1928 it was holding more than 5,000 tons of seed. By 1929, it will have 7,000 tons. This is the precious guarantee for a fruitful harvest.

[242] Because all of this seed is carefully selected by the native chiefs under the control of the administrator, with methodical rigor. Although some chiefs are less strict in the selection, the majority understand their role. In the cantons of Diokoul Gandiaye, Kahone, Birkelane, and in those of Sine, Sokone, Sanghako, Koungheul, and Kaffrine, the seeds are sorted one by one, and only the shells with two nuts are accepted.

The cultivator quickly yields to these requirements, because he has recognized the necessity for them.

These loans are made in the month of June, before sowing time. They are repayable in kind in the month of December, after the harvest, with an interest of 20%, the said interest likewise payable in kind.

No defaults have been reported. The loans are for two hectoliters per cultivator.

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654 474 244 [731] [426] In order to enjoy these advantages the society member pays an assessment of one franc per year.

He can also request and obtain loans of food, rice, or millet, if he is justified by a case of great necessity: scarcity as a result of an unfortunate or calamitous event.

Finally, since last year, he has been able to obtain loans in money on the condition of certain guarantees. These loans are granted for cultivation, and also for the improvement of his agricultural equipment, or for starting or enlarging his herd. These loans may amount to as much as 5,000 francs and are to be paid back within several years.

654 474 In 1927, the members numbered 240,000.

[251] [343] [312] The society has 30 storehouses, more than half of which are built out of permanent materials: laterite stones or cement.

/129/ It has utilized its resources to make wells out of reinforced concrete in order to procure for the inhabitants the potable water necessary for their needs and for the needs of their animals.

It gives bonuses to the cultivators who exhibit the best harvests. It also awards bonuses for the capture of animals harmful to agriculture.

The work accomplished is remarkable.

[244] The increase in the production of groundnuts in the circle is due to the Société de Prévoyance, under the control of the administration.

In it, commerce has a valuable organization whose usefulness it recognizes and whose incontestable and uncontested services it moreover appreciates.

312 The water problem. Wells. The serious question of water presents itself in the circle as it does everywhere in Senegal. The economic life of the region depends on the water supply of its inhabitants.

In order to prevent the danger of a water shortage, it has been necessary to dig wells. The séanes, natural reservoirs or pockets dug by man, were too small in number. They received rain water, but their volume was limited, and a few weeks sufficed to empty them after the last rainfall.

/129 cont./

312 The native digs wells. But potable water is sometimes reached at great depths. As a result, the wells that are not shored up collapse, or, even if shored up with wooden boards, landslides are produced. The wells are choked up, and it is necessary to do the work over again.

312 653 In 1904, Captain Friry of the Engineers was put in charge of the study of this problem. This officer made numerous soundings, dug experimental wells, and adopted a system of reinforced concrete tubes built gradually as the hole was deepened, which assured both great safety and great rapidity in the work. A movable shaft, with a diameter slightly smaller than that of the well, makes it possible to isolate, in the layer of aquiferous sand, a volume of water sufficient for drawing.

/130/ Captain Friry dug a certain number of them. He trained well-digging teams. They consisted of European and native personnel. The undertaking was tediously long, because it was sometimes a matter of going 70 to 80 meters deep. At times it was necessary in the end to go through a very thick layer of white and compact clay before reaching the water; it is true that the water rose very high in the well, but the work had to be abandoned in several places, the work becoming impossible at a depth of about 80 meters due to the lack of ventilation equipment. There was also the disagreeable surprise of coming upon a pocket of salt water.

In order to avoid these inconveniences, the natives were urged to dig wells without masonry wherever they could, and a promise was made to them that a reinforced concrete well would be built for them next to their own well whenever they found a good supply of water at an acceptable depth.

This promise, made in 1905, was not kept.

[474] [654] Fortunately, the Société de Prévoyance, created two years later, was able to include in its program as early as 1910-1911 the construction of reinforced concrete wells by the Friry system. A public works supervisor, M. Denis, who had worked under the direction of Captain Friry, was hired for this task under the direction of the administrator.